

What is Claimed is:

1. A method for processing a mailpiece comprising:
  - receiving a mailpiece that includes representative data on a region of the mailpiece, the representative data being in machine-readable format;
  - obtaining image data of the mailpiece;
  - calculating postage data as a function of the representative data;
  - printing an indicia on the mailpiece that represents the postage data;
  - generating a control signal as a function of the representative data;
  - and
  - modifying operation of a mailing machine as a function of the control signal.
2. The method as claimed in Claim 1, wherein the modifying step includes temporarily pausing operation of the mailing machine.
3. The method as claimed in Claim 1, wherein the representative data includes a barcode.
4. The method as claimed in Claim 1, wherein the representative data is encoded.
5. The method as claimed in Claim 1, wherein the representative data is encrypted.
6. The method as claimed in Claim 1, wherein the representative data uniquely identifies a particular mailpiece.

7. The method as claimed in Claim 1, further comprising:  
selecting particular mailpieces from a plurality of mailpieces for the printing representative data.
8. The method as claimed in Claim 1, further comprising:  
calculating adjusted postage data that represents an adjusted postage amount.
9. The method as claimed in Claim 1, wherein the representative data includes demarcation data.
10. The method as claimed in Claim 1, further comprising:  
transmitting at least a portion of the image data to a storage location.
11. The method as claimed in Claim 10, further comprising:  
utilizing the image data for tracking purposes.
12. The method as claimed in Claim 1, further comprising  
utilizing the representative data for delivery confirmation purposes.
13. An apparatus comprising:  
means for receiving a mailpiece that has representative data on a region of the mailpiece, the representative data being in machine-readable format;  
means for obtaining image data of the mailpiece;  
means for calculating postage data as a function of the representative data;  
means for printing an indicia on the mailpiece that represents the postage data;

means for generating a control signal as a function of the representative data; and

means for modifying operation of a mailing machine as a function of the control signal.

14. The apparatus as claimed in Claim 13, further comprising:  
means for selecting particular mailpieces from a plurality of mailpieces for the printing representative data.
15. The apparatus as claimed in Claim 13, further comprising:  
means for calculating adjusted postage data that represents an adjusted postage amount.
16. The apparatus as claimed in Claim 13, wherein the representative data includes demarcation data.
17. The apparatus as claimed in Claim 13, further comprising:  
means for transmitting at least a portion of the image data to a storage location.
18. The apparatus as claimed in Claim 17, further comprising:  
means for utilizing the image data for tracking purposes.
19. The apparatus as claimed in Claim 13, further comprising  
means for utilizing the representative data for delivery confirmation purposes.
20. The apparatus as claimed in Claim 13, wherein the means for modifying includes means for temporarily pausing operation of the mailing machine.

21. The apparatus as claimed in Claim 13, wherein the representative data includes a barcode.
22. The apparatus as claimed in Claim 13, wherein the representative data is encoded.
23. The apparatus as claimed in Claim 13, wherein the representative data is encrypted.
24. The apparatus as claimed in Claim 13, wherein the representative data uniquely identifies a particular mailpiece.
25. An apparatus comprising:
  - an input module adapted to receive a mailpiece;
  - an imaging module adapted to obtain image data from the mailpiece; and
  - a mailing machine adapted to calculate postage as a function of the image data and to print an indicia on the mailpiece, wherein the image data is used to generate a control signal, the control signal adapted to modify operation of the apparatus.
26. The apparatus as claimed in Claim 25, further comprising:
  - a transmission module adapted to transmit at least a portion of the image data to a remote location.
27. The apparatus as claimed in Claim 26, wherein the image data includes delivery confirmation data.

28. The apparatus as claimed in Claim 26, wherein the delivery confirmation data is transmitted from a first location to a second location.
29. The apparatus as claimed in Claim 26, wherein the remote location is a server.
30. The apparatus as claimed in Claim 29, wherein the server is adapted to transmit at least a portion of the image data to a receiver location.